



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 4:30 PM

**Council Chambers - City Hall, 3rd Floor
1717 E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Commission Members: Mike Canty, Kris LaFond, Sandy Rohrick (via phone), Jack Gadzala, Brad Yaggie

ALSO PRESENT: Ben Meinnert, Police Chief; Dave Murack, Fire Chief; Richard Bariber, Fire Department Acting Captain Top Candidate; Alec Staudinger, Firefighter/Paramedic Top Candidate

3. CONSIDERATION OF ANY COMMISSION MEMBER REQUESTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING FROM A REMOTE LOCATION

Motion by LaFond, Seconded by Canty.

Motion carried upon a voice vote.

4. STAFFING UPDATES

1. Police Department

Police Chief Meinnert, updated PFC on new hire of Santos Torres-Zapien. Sworn in on Wednesday, August 16th and began the police academy at North Central Wisconsin Technical College on Thursday, August 17th. Santos was hired under the same conditions of employment as Justin Jackson, currently at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. Both are hired part-time to attend the police academies and upon completion will promote to full-time status and be employed under a 3-year commitment.

2. Fire Department

Fire Chief Murack described a lengthy promotional process for the position of Acting Captain which included a 2-day practical examination, 1-day oral examination, and ultimately the person that scored the highest was Richard Barbier. Dave Murack also introduced Richard Barbier and Alec Staudinger, the newest Firefighter/Paramedic

3. Additional Update

Police Chief Meinnert and Fire Chief Murack both commented on ongoing budget planning underway for next year. Comments included unprecedented bargaining unit wages to budget for this upcoming year as well as Fire Department having an additional member on staff.

5. CLOSED SESSION

The Police and Fire Commission reserves the right to enter into closed session per Wis. Stats.

19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

The specific subject matter to be discussed:

1. Police Department Staffing Update
2. Fire Department Acting Captain Promotional Process
3. Firefighter / Paramedic Staffing Update
4. Fire Department Promotional List

Motion by Canty, Seconded by LaFond.
Motion carried upon a roll call vote.

6. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION PURSUANT TO WIS. STATS. 19.85(2)

Motion by Canty, Seconded by LaFond.
Motion carried upon a voice vote.

7. ANY ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION

1. Approval of Fire Department Acting Captain Candidate

Motion by Gadzala, Seconded by LaFond to approve the promotion of Richard Barbier to Fire Department Acting Captain
Motion carried upon a voice vote.

2. Approval of Firefighter/Paramedic Candidate

Motion by Gadzala, Seconded by Canty to approve the hire of Alec Staudinger as Firefighter/Paramedic
Motion carried upon a voice vote.

3. Approval of Fire Department Promotional List valid until September 1, 2025

Motion by Gadzala, Seconded by Canty to approve the Fire Department Promotional List and keep it valid for 2 years.
Motion carried upon a voice vote.

Commissioner Canty asked for an update on the reported drowning at Neshotah Beach over the weekend. Ben Meinnert reiterated the Press Release regarding the matter and statements made by him and Dave Murack at the City Council Meeting and Dave Murack concurred.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lafond, Seconded by Canty to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried upon a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Baryenbruch
City Clerk